

device **504** includes overlay **100** and touch-sensitive screen **102** as described with respect to FIGS. 1A and 1B. Keyboard input device **504** sends data to computer **501** based on the extruded areas that are pressed sufficiently to activate touch-sensitive screen **102**. The data is translated to character input by computer **501** and/or input device **504**, where the character input is based on the extruded areas that are activated.

[0038] Mouse **503** may be connected to keyboard **504** by, for example, a Universal Serial Bus (USB) connection, in which case keyboard **504** sends input data from mouse **503** to computer **501**. In one example, keyboard **504** and mouse **503** may communicate with computer **501** via a wireless connection, e.g. radio or infrared signals, in which case wires connecting the keyboard and mouse to the computer are not required. Additionally, mouse **503** may be connected directly to computer **501**, bypassing keyboard **504**. Computer **501** may include memory and one or more storage devices such as a hard drive, optical disk drive, and the like.

[0039] In one example, keyboard **504** and other computer system components, including, for example, computer **501**, display **505**, and mouse **503** or the like, may be integrated with or mounted in a kiosk. Additional devices may be associated with the computer, including a trackball, printer, credit card scanner, bill acceptor, and the like.

[0040] Software may run on the computer system, e.g. on computer **501**, or on keyboard input device **504**, or on a combination thereof, or on any other combination of components of the computer system, for selecting/displaying keyboard configurations and processing user input. The software may include keyboard configuration software that allows a user to select a language. In other examples, keyboard configuration selection logic may be carried out via firmware and/or hardware alone or in combination with suitable software.

[0041] The user may use mouse **503** or keyboard **504** to select a language based on information displayed on touch screen **102** or on display **505**. For example, a list of languages may be displayed on display **505**, and the user may select a language from the list using mouse **503**. As another example, the user may select the language by pressing keys on keyboard **504** based on information such as language names or characters displayed on touch screen **102**. In another example, language selection may occur when a user logs in. In yet another example, language selection may occur at any time in response to a user's request to change the language. As yet another example, language selection facilities of the operating system may be used to select the language. In a further example, language selection may occur when the computer starts up.

[0042] In one example, multi-lingual features of the operating system, such as Microsoft Windows™, Macintosh™ Mac OS™, Linux™, or the like and onscreen keyboard software may be used such that the computer displays a keyboard image associated with a language selected when the computer starts up. In other examples, the software may select the language based on other types of input, such as voice input. In still other examples, the software may select the language based on a command from a server, or based on geographical location information, or based on a device such as a switch or button associated with one of the computer components. For example, a multi-position switch may be associated with keyboard **504**, where each position on the

switch corresponds to a language, and the user selects a language by setting the switch to the position corresponding to that language.

[0043] Commercially available software which may be used in conjunction with certain examples for providing on-screen keyboard software is available, for example, through Madentec Limited of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada ([www.madentec.com](http://www.madentec.com)) or Innovation Management Group, Inc.(IMG) of Chatsworth, Calif. ([www.myttouch.com](http://www.myttouch.com)), both of which have made available software programs that allow a mouse-click to synthesize a keystroke in an on-screen display.

[0044] When a language has been selected, a keyboard layout corresponding to that language may be displayed on touch screen **102**. Information displayed by the computer on touch screen **102** or on display **505** may be displayed in a format based on the selected language, or in a format based on a locale that may be selected based on or separately from the language. For example, text displayed by the computer may be displayed in the selected language. Different geographical and cultural regions or locales have different locale-specific standards for presentation of information, such as date formats, currency formats, numeric formats, and the like. A computer's operating system may be configured to use a specific locale. In some examples, the locale may be selected based on the selected language. In other examples, the locale may be set to a default value. However, some languages are used in more than one locale, such as English in the locales of the United States and the United Kingdom, so it may be desired to allow selection of the locale separately from selection of the language. It is contemplated that the locale may be selected based on the selected language, or based on any of the techniques previously described for selecting the language, including keyboard input, mouse input, and so on.

[0045] The two configuration options described above, the language and the locale may be stored, along with any other desired configuration information, for subsequent use, so that the information need not be selected every time a user logs in or every time the computer is restarted. The configuration options may be stored on a device associated with the computer system, such as a hard disk, or on a server with which the computer system communicates. Software may store the configuration when the configuration is selected, and may retrieve the configuration when the configuration is required, e.g. when the computer is restarted or when a user logs in.

[0046] The software running on the computer, including, for example, the operating system and applications, may be localized to a locale such as a geographic region. Localization of the software to a locale may include configuring the software to display information in a format based on the locale. The locale may be selected by software based on the selected language.

[0047] A keyboard layout may be selected based on information in addition to a selected language, or based on information other than a selected language. For example, a locale may be selected by a user in addition to the language, in which case the keyboard layout corresponding to the selected region and language may be displayed on touch screen **102**. As another example, a region may be selected